



## **Regional Service Council Minutes**

### **Region # 17**

**Meeting Date: August 18, 2006**

**Meeting Location: Dubois County DCS**  
**611 Bartley**  
**Jasper, IN 47546**

**Council Members Present:** Susan Lesko, David Galloway, Lisa Bowles, Leslie Rowland, Georgann Gogel, Judge Arthur, and Bonita Mattingly

**Council Members Absent:** Mary Alice Manley, Judge Weikert, Connie Branch

**Others In Attendance:** Melinda Berry, Lana Tobin, Herbert Gordon

<h3><b>Meeting Minutes</b></h3>
---------------------------------

**Meeting Called to Order at:** at 8:05 A.M. by Regional Manager Susan Lesko.  
Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

1. The Development of a Regional Plan (Early Intervention Plan) was discussed. The Wells County Plan was passed out to those present. Discussion was held and the Council agreed that we should work on one regional plan to present to the Counties for next year. Herbert Gordon agreed to work on the plan and Melinda Berry offered her assistance. It was also decided to ask Connie Branch if she would be willing to help. Members were to review the Wells County Plan and send their comments to Mendy and Herb.
2. The phase down of Voluntary Services was discussed and explained to members present. All counties have started looking at other resources to refer families until Community Partners is up and running. Discussion was held and several members had questions as to why we were phasing out voluntary services and adding another layer of management if the current plan was working. Explanations were made as to the advantages of the phase down and the implementation of Community Partners.

3. Community Partners update was given. Ireland and Luzio are moving along and we hope to have services up and running in the next few months. Our provider fair will coincide with the start of services. It will be held in Jasper since Jasper is the central location in the region. Mike Singleton will be making arrangements to come to each county to speak at Step Ahead meetings, CPT teams, with school counselors, basically anywhere the Council feel they would be effective.
4. Georgann Gogel provided the RSC with an update on our Community Forum. Toni Laskey will present 2 days of training on November 29<sup>th</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup>. The forum will be held at the Habig Center in Jasper, IN. The first day will be general information on ab/ne for the public and social service agencies. The second day will be more in depth. The second day will be for FCM's, LEA, hospitals, coroners, etc.
5. A brief explanation was given of the county budget process. Each county director gave an overview of their budget and compared their budgets to the previous year. Explanations were given for increases or decreases in their budgets. Numbers of children in care were discussed (CHINS and probation). Many counties had increases in AAP due to adoptions this past year and many were anticipating more adoptions in the coming year. Due to increased IA caseloads family preservation dollars were also increased in most of the counties of the region. There were several children in placement that required more care than could be provided in a regular foster home, this was also a major reason for many increased budgets.

**Next Meeting Date, Location and Time:** September 15, 2006 at the Dubois County DCS office located at 611 Bartley in Jasper, IN. Meeting will start at 8:00 A.M. Dubois county time.

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 9:30A.M.